

## **DURATION OF SPLIT PRISON WORKSHOPS -FAQ**

### **Question**

We are negotiating for better administrative support for AVP Workshops in our new prison.

We gave a wish list that included 15 hours of contact over three days. That wish seemed to be an impossible dream. Four hours a day was about all the staff seemed to be able to give us with some certainty with extra time a bonus.

What do you recommend are the bottom lines / minimum times / other options?

### **Answer**

Fortunately AVP learning can be flexible

If you have 4 hour days you have options

- 1) 4 or 5 days in a week (x 4 hours)
- 2) 4 or 5 days over 2 weeks
- 3) Divide workshops into 6 parts instead of the regular 3 workshops. For example - Basic 1, Basic 2, Advanced 1 etc.

Although the ideal is over three days lots of AVP workshops are run over different configurations and are successful.

### **Advantages**

- Spread out split workshops have the advantage that the participants have more time to reflect during the whole workshop process
- Maybe OK for facilitators to have less of a commitment per day

Using a split format - you will need to have more community building activities for the beginning of each section

The manuals recommend 18-22 hour workshops. Maybe you could use the split format workshops to increase your workshop hours from 16 hours.

I suggest you work out what session combinations work for the facilitators and start from there in your negotiation.

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13 Feb 2011